

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: XA, FR, OTRA

SUBJECT: FRENCH CHARGE CALLS ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVIS

FOR MELONE

1. FRENCH CHARGE FRANCOIS DE LA GORCE AND COUNSELOR OF EMBASSY ANDRE VALADAS CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVIS FOR A GENERAL CONVERSATION ABOUT AFRICA. DE LA GORCE STRESSED HE WAS "NO EXPERT ON AFRICA" HE THEN PROCEEDED TO EXHIBIT A FAIRLY DETAILED KNOWLEDGE AND COMPREHENSION OF AFRICAN AFFAIRS.

2. DE LA GORCE EXPRESSED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN THE RESULTS OF THE SENGHOR VISIT AND THE SECRETARY'S APRIL 8 MEETING WITH AFRICAN AMBASSADORS, ABOUT WHICH HE SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN UNINFORMED PRIOR TO TODAY'S MEETING. DE LA GORCE SAID HE HAD GAINED THE IMPRESSION FROM AFRICAN AMBASSADORS IN PAST SEVERAL WEEKS THAT THEY BELIEVED PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY KISSINGER ARE GIVING MORE ATTENTION TO AFRICA. HE NOTED THE INFORMATION FROM TODAY'S CONVERSA-

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TION WOULD SUPPORT THIS VIEW.

3. TOPICS COVERED INCLUDED, IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE,
AMBASSADOR DAVIS' RECENT TRIP TO AFRICA, THE U.S. VISIT
OF PRESIDENT KAUNDA AND THE OAU. INGERSOLL

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